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Contact: (301) 443-3593, FAX (301) 443-0507

IHS Pharmacist Receives 2003 Maryland Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award

James Bresette, PharmD, a pharmacist with the Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency in the Department of Health and Human Services, has been selected to receive the 2003 Maryland Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award. The award acknowledges a pharmacist who has graduated within the past ten years for individual excellence and for making a significant contribution to the profession through service to their local, state, or national pharmacy organization. Dr. Bresette was presented the award at the Maryland Pharmacist Association's state convention held this June in Ocean City, Maryland.

"Dr. Bresette is a high caliber employee who has made significant contributions to the pharmacy programs of the Indian Health Service," said Charles W. Grim, Interim IHS Director. "This award acknowledges his professionalism, enthusiasm, and dedication, and his outstanding work on behalf of American Indians and Alaska Natives. We are very proud of his achievements."

Dr. Bresette is the Deputy Director for the IHS Office of Clinical and Preventive Services (OCPS), Office of Public Health (OPH), at the headquarters of the IHS in Rockville, Md. Dr. Bresette represents the OCPS Director and shares responsibility for management and leadership of a multi-disciplinary office of over forty health professionals and administrative staff who work to improve the provision of health care services for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

"His outstanding ability to manage a broad array of clinical programs confirm Dr. Bresette as an outstanding manager and leader, and a deserving recipient of this distinguished young pharmacist award," stated Dr. Richard Olson, Director of OCPS, OPH.

Dr. Bresette began his career with the Indian Health Service in 1997 at the IHS Fort Peck Service Unit in Poplar, Montana, where he served as a clinical pharmacist and as chief pharmacist at the Chief Redstone Clinic. Before his assignment at IHS Headquarters, he served as the chief pharmacist for the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Administrative Maximum Penitentiary. Dr. Bresette has been a member of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps since his call to active duty in 1997. In 2002 he received an Exceptional Capability Promotion to his present rank of Commander.

In 1981, Dr. Bresette earned a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, and graduated from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 1997.

In addition to several USPHS awards, Dr. Bresette's previous accomplishments include the 2000 Allen J. Brands Public Health Service Clinical Pharmacist of the Year Award, and recognition as the 2001 VADM C. Everett Koop Outstanding Junior Officer of the Year.



NOTICE TO EDITORS: For additional information on this subject or to arrange an interview with Dr. Bresette, please contact the IHS Public Affairs Office at 301-443-3593. Additional information about the IHS is available on the IHS website <http://www.ihs.gov> and <http://info.ihs.gov>

